AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Withdrawn) A body weight gain inhibitor comprising a compound having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity, a prodrug thereof or a salt thereof.

2. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein the body weight gain occurs before reaching obesity.

3. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein the body weight gain is observed in a patient with obesity.

4. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 3, wherein the obesity is associated with diabetes.

5. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 4, further comprising a PPARγ agonist-like substance in combination.

6. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein the body weight gain is induced by a PPARγ agonist-like substance.

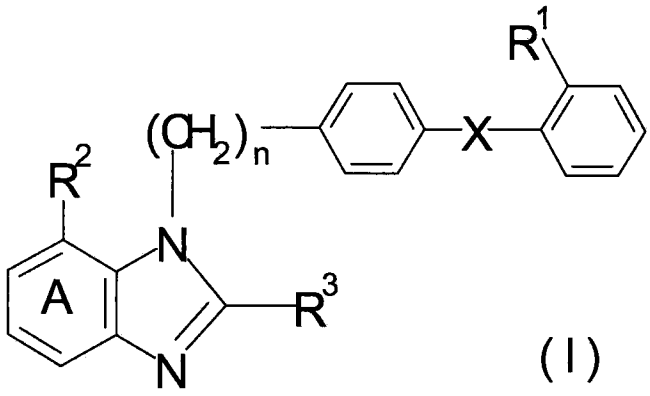
7. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 6, which suppresses the body weight gain induced by a PPARγ agonist-like substance to not more than about 80%.

8. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein the compound having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity is a non-peptidic compound.

9. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein the compound having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity has an oxygen atom in a molecule.

10. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein the compound having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity has an ether bond or a carbonyl group in a molecule.

11. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein the compound having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity is a compound represented by the formula (I):



(I)

wherein R^1 denotes a group which can form an anion or a group which can be converted into the group which can form an anion, X denotes that the phenylene group and the phenyl group are bound directly or through a spacer having no more than 2 of atom chains, n denotes 1 or 2, a ring A denotes a benzene ring optionally further having a substituent, R^2 denotes a group which can form an anion or a group which can be converted into the group which can form an anion, and R^3 denotes a hydrocarbon residue which may be bound via a hetero atom and which may have a substituent.

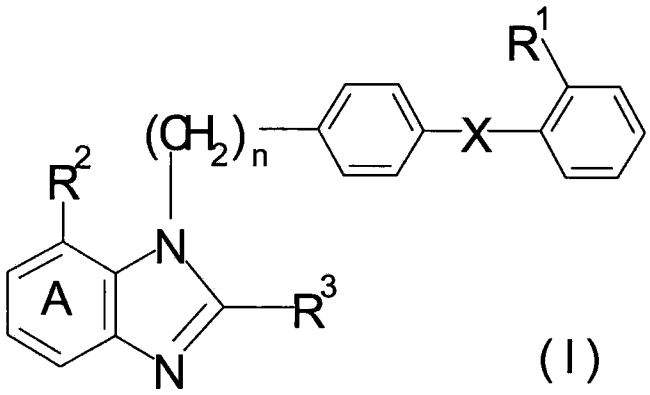
12. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein the compound having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity is 2-ethoxy-1-[[2'-(5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)biphenyl-4-yl]methyl]-1H-benzimidazole-7-carboxylic acid.

13. (Withdrawn) The inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein the compound having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity, or a salt thereof is Losartan, Losartan potassium, Eprosartan, Candesartan cilexetil, Candesartan, Valsartan, Telmisartan, Irbesartan, Olmesartan, Olmesartan medoxomil, or Tasosartan.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting a body weight gain in a mammal, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity, a prodrug thereof or a salt thereof and an effective amount of a PPARγ agonist-like substance in combination, to the mammal.

15. (Canceled)

16. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the compound having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity is a compound represented by the formula (I):



(I)

wherein R^1 denotes a group which can form an anion or a group which can be converted into the group which can form an anion, X denotes that the phenylene group and the phenyl group are bound directly or through a spacer having no more than 2 of atom chains, n denotes 1 or 2, a ring A denotes a benzene ring optionally further having a substituent, R^2 denotes a group which can form an anion or a group which can be

converted into the group which can form an anion, and R^3 denotes a hydrocarbon residue which may be bound via a hetero atom and which may have a substituent.

17. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the compound having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity is 2-ethoxy-1-[[2'-(5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)biphenyl-4-yl]methyl]-1H-benzimidazole-7-carboxylic acid.

18. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the compound having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity, or a salt thereof is Losartan, Losartan potassium, Eprosartan, Candesartan cilexetil, Candesartan, Valsartan, Telmisartan, Irbesartan, Olmesartan, Olmesartan medoxomil, or Tasosartan.

19. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the PPARγ agonist-like substance is pioglitazone.

20. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the body weight gain occurs before reaching obesity.

21. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the body weight gain is observed in a patient with obesity.

22. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the obesity is associated with diabetes.